

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Inventors : Kenji Kousaka	Docket No.: SSC-06-1067
: Morihiko Imada	
Title : METHOD FOR CONTROLLING	Confirmation No.:
: BRIGHT ANNEALING FURNACE	
	Dated: April 5, 2006

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop PCT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits, the Applicants respectfully request consideration of the following amendments and remarks: